

**Mailed**

MAR 20 2001

Technology Center 2100

Paper No. 4

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in re Application of: Hugh H. Birch et al.)
Application No. 09/648,581)
Filed: August 25, 2000)
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR)
MATCHING AN OFFER WITH A)
QUOTE)

**DECISION ON PETITION FOR
ACCELERATED
EXAMINATION UNDER
M.P.E.P. §708.02(VIII)**

This is a decision on the petition, filed August 25, 2000 under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) and M.P.E.P. §708.02(VIII): Accelerated Examination, to make the above-identified application special.

M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII which sets out the prerequisites for a grantable petition for Accelerated Examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.102(d) states in relevant part:

A new application (one which has not received any examination by the examiner) may be granted special status provided that applicant (and this term includes applicant's attorney or agent) complies with each of the following items:

- (a) Submits a petition to make special accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(I);
- (b) Presents all claims directed to a single invention, ...
- (c) Submits a statement(s) that a pre - examination search was made, listing the field of search by class and subclass, publication, Chemical Abstracts, foreign patents, etc. A search made by a foreign patent office satisfies this requirement;
- (d) Submits one copy each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims if said references are not already of record; and
- (e) Submits a detailed discussion of the references, which discussion points out, with the particularity required by 37 CFR 1.111(b) and (c), how the claimed subject matter is patentable over the references.

Applicant's submission meets all the criteria set out above, accordingly, the Petition is **GRANTED**.

The application file is being forwarded to the Examiner of Record for accelerated examination according to the procedures set forth in M.P.E.P. §708.02, Section VIII.

Pinchus M. Laufer

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Paper No. 5

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In re Application of: Hugh H. Birch et al.)
Application No. 09/648,581)
Filed: August 25, 2000) **DECISION ON REQUEST FOR**
For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR) **WITHDRAWAL AS ATTORNEY**
MATCHING AN OFFER WITH A)
QUOTE)

This is a decision on the Request To Withdraw from Representation filed October 31, 2000.

A grantable request to withdraw as attorney of record should indicate thereon the present mailing addresses of the attorney(s) who is/are withdrawing from the record and of the applicant. The request for withdrawal must be signed by every attorney seeking to withdraw or contain a clear indication that one attorney is signing on behalf of another/others. A request to withdraw will not be approved unless at least 30 (thirty) days would remain between the date of approval and the later of the expiration date of a time to file a response or the expiration date of the maximum time period which can be extended under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). The effective date of withdrawal being the date of decision and not the date of request. See M.P.E.P. § 402.06. 37 C.F.R. § 1.36 further requires that the applicant or patent owner be notified of the withdrawal of the attorney or agent.

The request is deficient in the following aspects: (1) the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) does not recognize firms - each attorney for whom withdrawal is requested must be individually listed; (2) there is no statement that Mr. Wylie is *authorized* to sign on behalf of the other attorneys and is signing on their behalf; (3) there is no indication that the applicant has been notified of the request for withdrawal. Therefore, the request is **DENIED**.

All future communications from the Office will continue to be directed to the above-listed address until otherwise notified by applicant. Applicant is reminded of the obligation to promptly notify the Office of any change in correspondence address to ensure receipt of all communications from the Office.

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